(d) if so, what are their main demands; and

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. The directioons of the Supreme Court were in relation to the scheme drawn up in 1982 under which an option was given to certain categories of Staff Artists to be treated as Government servants and the other categories of Staff Artists as 'Art'sts'.

(b) Based on a fresh scheme finalised in 1991, orders treating all Staff Artists/Artists who were in service on 6th March, 1982 or appointed as such hereafter, who did not opt out of the scheme, as Government servants were issued on 29.11.1991.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The demands mainly relate to grant of gazetted status and opening of promotional avenues.

(e Action is already at hand to amend to recruitment Rules appropriately. However, no firm timeframe can be given.

Objectionable nature of Foreign media Programme

7867. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADACASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report captioned 'No soft options for Star TV likely' which appeared in the Indian Express of the 12th May, 1995;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the last couple of years the Principal Information Officer of Government of India has warned BBC and Star TV at least three times about the objectionable nature of their programmes;

(c) if so, the details of the objected programmes;

(d) the details of the warning;

(e) whether any objection has been taken during this period to PTV also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Principal Information Officer had contacted BBC to correct the incorrect information given by the agency when they reported in one of their news bulletins in 1993 that Idian troops had stormed into the Hazratbal mosque and also when India Business Report telecast Har-Shad Mehta's statement without the official denial.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Publicity to Government achievements

7868. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have failed in properly publicising its spectacular achievements during the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons for this failure in publicity;

(c) the steps being taken to properly publicise the achievements of this Government; and

(d) whether care will be taken to see that the public is properly informed about the level of achievements in June, 1991 and the spectacular rise in the level of achievements as on May, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting provides comprehensive information on the polies, plans, projects and achievements of the Government of India through its various Medja Units so as to create a climate of awareness of the directions of development and ensure people's participation in the implementation of Government's plans and programmes. In view of their charter of responsibflities, constant efforts are always made for adequately publicising the policies, programmes and achievements of the Government through various programme formats. Besides, News Wings of All India Radio and Doordarshan bring to the listening public, news of important developments both at home and abroad in all spheres of life. In futue also it would be the constant endevour of these Units to keep the public properly informed about the level of achievements.

Certification of Indian Feature films

7869. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many Indian feature films were certified during the last year;

(b) how many of them were in Hindi and how many were in Marathi;

(c) how many were certified as 'U' and 'A respectively;

(d) what is the reason for such high percentage of 'A' certification; and

(e) whether it is a fact that when 'A' certification is given there are more commercial benefits to the producers and distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) During the calendar year 1994, 754 Indian feature films (including 155 Hindi films and 22 Marathi films were ceritfied by the Central Board of Film Certification. While 534 of them were granted 'U' certificates, the number of A films was 129.

(d) No study has been made in this regard. However, the increase in percentage may be inter alia due to (i) more and more filmmakers including in their films elements not suitable for non-adults and (ii) the Board becoming more strict in the application of guidelines issued by Government for certification of films.

(e) Here again, no study has been made in this regard. The commercial success of a film depends upon many factors like storyline, star cast good direction good camera work, slick editing etc. However, there have been a number of appeals against the grant of an A certificate by the Board. At least in such cases it can be presumed that there is more commercial benefit in getting a U certificate.

निजी केबल आपरेटरों द्वारा दिखाये गये कार्यक्रम

7870. श्री रामजी लाल : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि कुछ निजी केबल आपरेटरों के कार्यक्रमों में भूतपूर्व स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों के विरुद्ध प्रतिकूल टिप्पणियां की गई हैं;